T-806 Deshields United Methodist Church Copperville Private

The Deshields United Methodist church is a central fixture in the small black community of Copperville. Built in 1895, the single story frame church is dominated by an entrance and bell tower that stands on axis with the gable roof. Topped by a pyramidal roof the belfry is topped by a small tapered wood finial. Colored glass windows light the sanctuary. The most significant interior feature is the allegorical mural painted by Ruth Starr Rose around 1940 depicting Moses parting the Red Sea in an effort to represent freedom from slavery. Also worthy of note is the chamfered baluster altar rail and the beaded board wainscoting. Fixed in the southwest corner of the pier foundation is the marble datestone documenting the 1895 construction year.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource	Name:	DESH	IELDS	UNITE	ED MET	HODIST	CHU	RCH	
MHT Inve	ntory Num	ber: _	T-8	06					
MARYLAND	COMPREHE	NSIVE	HISTO	DRIC I	PRESER	VATION	! PLA	N DATA	à:
1)	Historic	Perio	od The	eme(s)		RCHITE ELIGIO		€	-
2)	Geograph	ic Ori	lentat	ion:	ΕA	STERN	SHORI	Ε	
3)	Chronolo	gical/	'Deve]					OMTNA	N.O.
4)	Resource	Type ((s):	18	370-19	IAL/UR 30 AND C			NCI

Survey No. T-806

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

DOE __yes __no

Magi No.

1. Nam	e (indicate pr	referred name)		
historic	DESHIELDS M	. E. CHAPEL		
and/or common	DESHIELDS UN	NITED METHODIST C	HURCH	
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	East side of	Copperville Road		not for publication
city, town	Copperville	vicinity of	congressional district	First
state	Maryland	county	Talbot	
3. Clas	sification			
Category district building(s) structure site object	Ownership public _X_ private both Public Acquisition in process being considered _x_not_applicable	Status X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible X yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Prope	rty (give names ar	nd mailing addresse	s of <u>all</u> owners)
name	Trustees of D	eshields United	Methodist Church	n
street & number	W-1		telephone no	0.:
city, town	Copperville	state	and zip code Man	ryland
5. Loca	ation of Leg	al Description	on	
courthouse, regis	stry of deeds, etc. T a	albot County Cler	k of Court	liber
street & number	Talbot Coun	aty Courthouse		folio
city, town	Easton		state	MD 21601
6. Repi	resentation	in Existing	Historical Surv	eys
title				
date			federal stat	e county loca
pository for su	rvey records			
city, town			state	

7. Description

Survey No. T-806

Condition excellent good fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	Check one unaltered x altered	Check one original site moved date of move	
x good	ruins		_	

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Deshields United Methodist church stands on the east side of Copperville Road in the center of Copperville, Talbot County, Maryland. The single-story frame church faces northwest with the gable roof oriented on a northwest/southeast axis.

Erected in 1895, the frame church is supported on a low brick pier foundation, and the building is sheathed with asbestos shingles. The steeply pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Rising in the center of the northwest (main) elevation is a entrance and bell tower topped by a wood shingled pyramidal roof.

The northwest elevation is dominated by the entrance tower and flanking six-over-six colored glass windows. The belfry is finished with large louvered openings on each side, and a tapered wooden spire rises from the peak of the pyramidal roof. Fixed in the southwest corner of the foundation is the marble datestone that is inscribed, "Dashields M. E. Chapel, 1895."

Each side of the of the church is defined by two six-over-six colored glass sash windows that light the sanctuary.

The southeast (rear) wall of the main church is covered with a shorter single-story apse with two different sized windows.

The interior retains some original features including a chamfered post altar rail and beaded board wainscoting around the perimeter of the sanctuary. Plain corner block surrounds trim the window and door openings. Most significant to the interior is a mural painting by Ruth Starr Rose on the back wall of the altar. Painted around 1940, the mural depicts an allegory of Moses parting the Red Sea in an effort to represent freedom from slavery.

Period	1499 1599 1699 1799 1899	Areas of Significance— archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture art commerce communications	Check and justify below community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlemen industry invention	law literature military music	science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater
Specific	dates	1895	Builder/Architect		-
check:	ar	icable Criteria:And/or icable Exception: x	A _ B <u>x C</u> _ D A _ B _ C _ D	EFG	
	Level	l of Significance:	nationalstate	x local	

T - 806

Survey No.

Significance

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Deshields United Methodist church is a central fixture in the small black community of Copperville. Built in 1895, the single story frame church is dominated by an entrance and bell tower that stands on axis with the gable roof. Topped by a pyramidal roof the belfry is topped by a small tapered wood finial. Colored glass windows light the sanctuary. The most significant interior feature is the allegorical mural painted by Ruth Starr Rose around 1940 depicting Moses parting the Red Sea in an effort to represent freedom from slavery. Also worthy of note is the chamfered baluster altar rail and the beaded board wainscoting. Fixed in the southwest corner of the pier foundation is the marble datestone documenting the 1895 construction year.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey	No.	T-806
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10. Ge	ograp	hical Data			
Quadrangle nan	ne	complete UTM refer		Quadrang	gle scale
Zone East		Northing	В	asting	Northing
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erbal bounda	ry descripti	on and justification			
ist all states		s for properties overl		nty boundaries	_
ist all states			apping state or cour county county	nty boundaries	code code
ist all states tate	and countie	s for properties overl code	county	nty boundaries	code
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The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

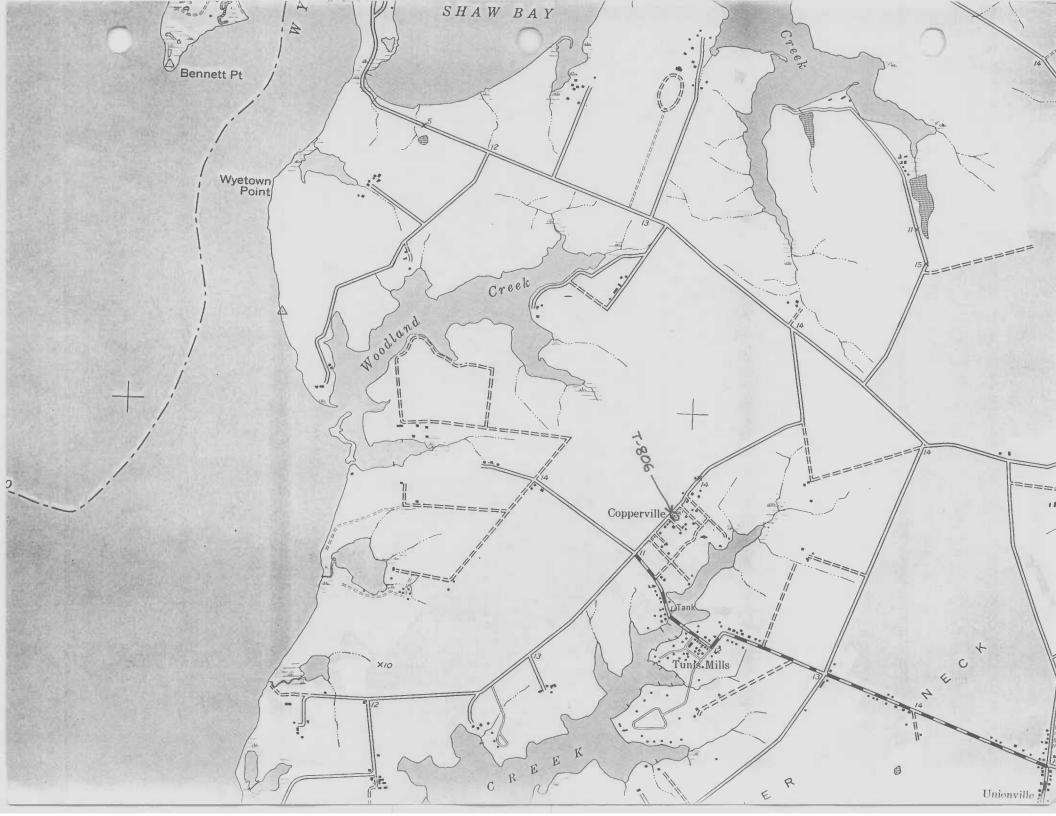
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House 21 State Circle

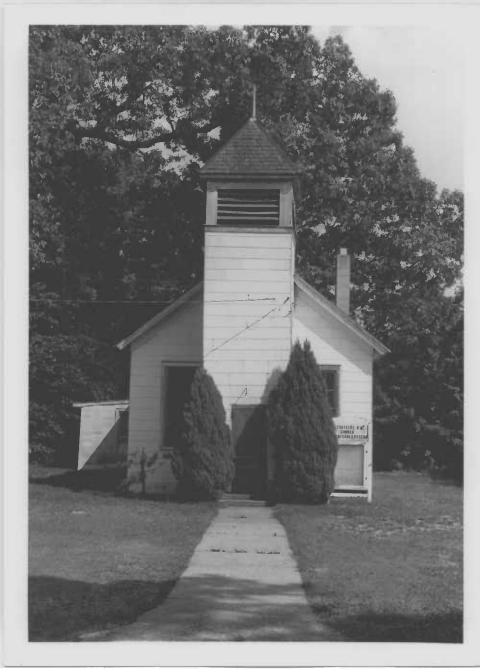
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 269-2438





T-806
DESHIELDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Copperville, Talbot Co., Maryland
Southwest elevation
6/90, Paul Touart, photographer
Negative/MD Historical Trust



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DESHIELDS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Copperville, Talbot County, Maryland
West elevation
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Negative/MD Historical Trust